First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

http://www.worksmartmompreneurs.com/blog/personal-growth/success-a-journey-a-destination-or-an-attitude/

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

March 1, 2015 10:00 am

Second Sunday in Lent

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"In the Bulb There Is A Flower"** **433 NCH** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Donna Eyster

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

****Please rise in body or spirit as you are able***

Announcements Donna Eyster

Ringing the Bell

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

***Hymn** **"Womb of Life, and Source of Being"** **274 NCH**

Lenten Candles

Meditation - Week Two Carol Hall

Unison Prayer

Open yourself to God. There is nothing you can do that will separate you from this love. In every moment of our lives, God knows who we are, And with patience and love, offers us what we need. We are blessed by this continuous cheering for each of us as we journey. Amen.

Anthem **"**To This Altar**"** FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading Genesis 17:1-7 Donna Eyster

Hymn **"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"** **136 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* Carol Hall

New Testament Reading Romans 4:13-25 Carol Hall

Reflection **"Faith"** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"Song of the Soul"** **81 ES**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time. Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version — Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Most compassionate Life-giver,
May we honor and praise you;
May we work with you to establish
your new order of justice, peace and love.
Give us what we need for growth,
And help us, through forgiving others, to accept forgiveness.
Strengthen us in the time of testing,
That we may resist all evil.
For all the tenderness,
Strength and love are yours, now and forever. Amen.
- W. Wallace, Rainbow Cathedral Church, Tacoma WA

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) — Donna Eyster

We dare to believe that the power holding together the infinite reaches of time and space has entered into a covenant relationship with people on this tiny planet, that God gives us responsibility to care for. Our giving is dedicated to this care giving responsibility. Amen.

Offertory — Steve McGhee

*Doxology — "Take My Gifts" — 562 NCH

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

*Prayer of Dedication *(Unison)* — Donna Eyster

Thank you, God, for the signs and wonders that reveal your presence. Thank you for the covenant fulfilled in Jesus Christ. We want to do our part to share your love with the world. Use our offerings and our lives to bring a realization of Your love to our existence. We pray that we may be humble, teachable and faithful this week as we seek to lead others to your covenant community. Amen.

COMMUNING WITH GOD

***Hymn of Blessing** **"Lord, You Are Welcome"** **31 SING**

Communion Service Carol Hall

Communion will be served by intinction in our chairs.
All are Welcome at the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving Carol Hall

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"When Did We See You?"** **62 ES**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

One Go forth with this truth lodged firmly in your heart:
There is nothing you can do or say that will separate you from the love of God.

Many **In Christ we see the power of God's transforming love;**
The love that was in Christ in is the same love that is in us today.

One In every moment of our lives, God knows who we are,
And with patience and love, offers us what we need.

Many **Like Christ, we will open ourselves to God's presence;**
We will place our lives in God's care;
We will follow Christ in the pursuit of compassion, justice, and peace.

Amen.

- adapted from Season of Lent/Easter, Jeanyne Slettom

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
***website:* www.ypsiucc.com**

~~~~~~

God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

~~~~~~

Our Volunteers	Today: March 1st	Next Sunday: March 8th
Usher	Jamie Goldsmith	Lyle Molter
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Donna Eyster	Ivan Harner
Worship Set-up	Donna Eyster	Margaret Harner
Acolyte	???	???
Friendship Time	Patty Sherwood	Melanie Harner
Sunday School	Melanie Harner	Tad Wysor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MEETING OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC: The Annual Meeting has been postponed and will happen on March 22, 2015 after the service.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address': Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights***, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expired May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.